Resolution No. 115 March 10, 2005

Memorializing Resolution Urging Congress To Approve A Joint Resolution Of Disapproval To Nullify The United States Department Of Agriculture (USDA) Decision To Resume The Importation Of Live Cattle On March 7, 2005

Legislators Aiello, Alfonso, Busick, Cummings, DePew, Every, Felicello, Gerentine, Harris, Hathaway, Maloney, McAfee, Meyer, Noonan, Roberti, Stock, Tipp, Bartels, Berardi, Dart, Donaldson, Feldmann, Hyatt, Kraft, Lomita, Loughran, R.A. Parete, R.S. Parete, Provenzano, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Stoeckeler and Zimet offer the following:

WHEREAS, in conjunction with New York State Assembly Resolution K-155, the Ulster County Legislature is urging the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives to pass a joint resolution in disapproval to nullify a USDA decision to resume importation of live cattle on March 7, 2005, and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2003 Canadian officials reported the presence of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in a single cow in an Alberta feedlot, which prompted the United States to ban all importation of live Canadian cattle into the country. This ban remains in place although the importation of certain cuts of Canadian beef has since been authorized, and

WHEREAS, protecting the health and well-being of all citizens is of the utmost importance to the members of the Ulster County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) is a slowly progressive, degenerative, fatal disease affecting the central nervous system of adult cattle which have been fed ruminant animal proteins, and

WHEREAS, the Mental Health/Public Health/Residential Services Committee has been polled regarding said request with a majority of the members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature calls upon the New York State Legislature and Congress to disapprove of the USDA's decision to resume importation of live cattle, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to President George W. Bush, Governor George E. Pataki, Comptroller Alan Hevesi, United States Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Charles Schumer, United States Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader David A. Paterson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Minority Leader Charles Nesbitt, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin

- Page 2 -

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Cahill, Clifford Crouch, Daniel Hooker, William Magee and Thomas Kirwan, the National Association of Counties and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 33 NOES: 0

FINANCIAL IMPACT: NONE

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